

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph of the specification on page 1, lines 7-26, as follows:

This application ~~claims the benefit of the filing date~~ ^{now U.S. Patent 6,650,624} is a continuation of
United States Application No. 09/574,558, filed on May 19, 2000, ~~which claimed the~~
benefit is a continuation-in-part ^{now abandoned} of United States regular Application No. 09/430,821,
filed on October 29, 1999, which claimed the benefit of the filing date of United States
Provisional Patent Application No. 60/106,264, filed October 30, 1998 and entitled
HEADEND UPSTREAM MAC/PHY INTERFACE; United States Provisional Patent
Application No. 60/106,427, filed October 30, 1998 and entitled ROBUST
TECHNIQUE FOR OPTIMAL UPSTREAM COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CABLE
MODEM SUBSCRIBER AND A HEADEND; United States Provisional Patent
Application No. 60/106,438, filed October 30, 1998 and entitled SYSTEM FOR, AND
METHOD OF, FRAGMENTING DATA PACKETS IN A CABLE MODEM SYSTEM;
United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/106,439, filed October 30, 1998 and
entitled CABLE MODEM SYSTEM; United States Provisional Patent Application No.
60/106,440, filed October 30, 1998 and entitled NETWORK DATA TRANSMISSION
SYNCHRONIZATION SYSTEM AND METHOD; United States Provisional Patent
Application No. 60/106,441, filed October 30, 1998 and entitled BURST RECEIVER
SYSTEM, the entire contents of all of which are hereby expressly incorporated by
reference.